Concert of Jewish Hope

to benefit Beth Israel Congregation and
the Institute of Southern Jewish Life • Jackson, Mississippi

SUNDAY • JUNE 14, 2026

Don't let the light go out!

Temple Beth Ohr
La Mirada

TEMPLE ISRAEL
LONG BEACH

No Jewish Community Stands Alone

Thousands of miles separate Southern California from Jackson, Mississippi. Yet tonight reminds us of a truth that has sustained the Jewish people for generations: no Jewish community stands alone.

In January 2026, Beth Israel Congregation in Jackson suffered devastating damage when a fire destroyed sacred spaces, prayer books, Torahs, and treasured parts of a synagogue that has served Mississippi's Jewish community for more than a century. The Institute of Southern Jewish Life, whose offices are housed within the synagogue, was also deeply affected.

But this story is not only about what was lost.

It is about what remains.

The strength of a synagogue is not found in its walls, but in the people who fill it with prayer, learning, friendship, and hope.

For more than 160 years, Beth Israel Congregation has been a place where Jewish traditions are passed from one generation to the next. While the fire damaged a building, it did not diminish the spirit of the congregation or the traditions that continue to bring people together.

Tonight, we help ensure that our traditions continue, not only in Mississippi, but wherever Jewish communities gather, celebrate, learn, and pray. Through music, friendship, and generosity, we affirm that **when one Jewish community is hurting, we all respond.**

Concert Program

- **One Day**
  Opening Song
- **Welcome**
  Rabbi Len Muroff
- **Hashkiveinu**
  Craig Taubman
- **Mi Shebeirach**
  Craig Taubman
- **Video Presentation**
  Rabbi Len Muroff
- **P'tach Lanu Sha'ar**
  Dani Pravder
- **Modim Anachnu Lach**
  Cantor Kelly Cooper
- **In this house**
  Gitai Vinshtok
- **Hallelujah**
  Gitai Vinshtok
- **Oseh Shalom**
  Cantor Nancy Linder
- **Video Presentation**
  Julie Silver
- **I Dreamed a Dream**
  Rena Strober
- **Bright Star**
  Cantor Ilan Davidson
- **A Whole New World**
  Cantor Ilan Davidson & Cantor Kelly Cooper
- **Video Presentation**
  Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL)
- **Shalom Rav**
  Ben Russell
- **Shir Shalom**
  Cantor Judy Sofer
- **For Good**
  Rena Strober & Cantor Kelly Cooper

Finale

What a Wonderful World
All Performers

One Day

Sometimes I lay under the moon and thank God I'm breathin'
Then I pray, "Don't take me soon ‘cause I am here for a reason"

Sometimes in my tears I drown but I never let it get me down
So when negativity surrounds I know someday, it'll all turn around because

All my life, I've been waitin' for, I've been prayin' for, for the people to say
That we don't wanna fight no more, there'll be no more wars, and our children will play
Chorus (2x) One day (one day), one day (one day) one day (oh-oh-oh)

In this maze you can lose your way, your way,
It might drive you crazy, but don’t let it phase you no way, no way

Sometimes in my tears I drown but I never let it get me down
So when negativity surrounds I know someday, it'll all turn around because

All my life, I've been waitin' for, I've been prayin' for, for the people to say
That we don't wanna fight no more, there'll be no more wars, and our children will play
Chorus (2x) One day (one day), one day (one day) one day (oh-oh-oh)

One day, this all will change, treat people the same, stop with the violence, down with the hate
One day, we'll all be free and proud to be under the same sun, singin' songs of freedom like
Chorus (2x) One day (one day), one day (one day) one day (oh-oh-oh)

All my life, I've been waitin' for, I've been prayin' for, for the people to say
That we don't wanna fight no more, there'll be no more wars, and our children will play
Chorus (2x) One day (one day), one day (one day) one day (oh-oh-oh)

What a Wonderful World

I see trees of green
Red roses too
I see them bloom
For me and you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

I see skies of blue
And clouds of white
The bright blessed day
The dark sacred night
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

The colors of the rainbow
So pretty in the sky
Are also on the faces
Of people going by
I see friends shaking hands
Saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying
I love you

I hear babies cry
I watch them grow
They'll learn much more
Than I'll ever know
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world
Yes, I think to myself
What a wonderful world
Ooh, yes

Meet the Artists & Leaders

Rabbi Len Muroff

Rabbi Len Muroff has served as a compassionate leader, educator, and social justice advocate for more than 30 years. He champions Israel, combats antisemitism, supports those in need, and enjoys teaching Torah and Jewish ethics.

Cantor Kelly Cooper

Cantor Kelly Cooper enjoyed a career performing in musical theater and opera productions on land and at sea before answering the call to the cantorate. Ordained in 2022, she has served as Cantor of Temple Israel in Long Beach since 2021.

Cantor Ilan Davidson

Cantor Ilan Davidson has been delighting audiences as a concert performer since he was 5 years old. A descendant of more than 5 generations of Cantors, Ilan has been serving Temple Beth El in San Pedro for over 31 years.

Gary Greenberg

Gary Greenberg is a drummer and percussionist, whose studio credits include Sergio Mendes and Snoop Dogg. He has been a member of the Ikar davening team for over ten years and currently plays in The Electric Jazz Quartet, a jazz fusion band.

Nancy Linder

Nancy Linder has served as Cantorial Soloist and choir director at Beth David since 2000. A singer, recording artist, and performer, she has appeared in award-winning musicals while recording several albums of Jewish and Broadway music.

Dani Pravder

Dani Pravder is a queer Jewish pianist, music producer and composer. As founder of Homegrown Recording, Dani has worked with acclaimed artists and contributed to projects for HBO, Apple TV, Netflix, and A24.

Benjamin Russell

Ben Russell has served Beth Israel Congregation in Mississippi for over a decade, first as Cantorial Soloist and now as Student Rabbi and Spiritual Leader. He is pursuing rabbinic ordination through ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal.

Cantor Judy Sofer

Hazzan Judy Sofer has served as cantor at Temple Beth Shalom of Long Beach for 15 years and previously at Pasadena Jewish Temple & Center. She is Director of the Cultural Arts program for a regional Jewish Federation.

Rena Strober

Rena Strober started her career on Broadway in Les Miserables and spent decades on stages all over the world. Today she finds balance with being an actor, working towards her Cantorial Ordination, and leading services and Jewish life cycle events.

Craig Taubman

Craig Taubman is an award-winning singer/songwriter, community organizer, founder of the Pico Union Project and Los Angeles County Commissioner.

Gitai Vinshtok

Gitai Vinshtok is a soloist and musician born and raised in Los Angeles. He is inspired by folk singers, rock bands, and Jewish-Israeli music alike. Gitai has been leading services and song circles in LA County and beyond since 2019.

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Thank you for joining us in support of
Beth Israel Congregation and the Institute of Southern Jewish Life

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Together, we can help ensure that Jewish life in Mississippi continues to shine for generations to come.